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store away in his brain for use when questions suddenly arise in the midst of trials when there is no time to investigate. Among the important subjects exhaustively dealt with are Warrant, Waste, Water and Water Courses, Winding up of Corporations, and Working Contracts. This latter title strikes us as being somewhat singular in that it treats of what are known in this State as "building contracts," that is, a contract under which work or labor is performed in the erection, construction, or repair of buildings.

We congratulate the Edward Thompson Company on the completion of their task. They have succeeded in giving to the lawyer a work which has come into universal use and favor. We are glad to know that the work is to be kept up to date by the publication of supplemental volumes. While it is somewhat harrowing to think that we shall have to continue in perpetuity the purchase of each succeeding supplement, yet the lawyer must not and will not be satisfied unless furnished promptly with the very latest deliverances of the courts.

THE FEDERAL STATUTES ANNOTATED. Containing all the Laws of the United States of a General and Permanent Nature in force on the first day of January, 1905. Compiled under the editorial supervision of William M. McKinney, editor of the *Encyclopedia of Pleading and Practice*, and Peter Kemper, Jr. Vol. VI. Edward Thompson Company, Northport, Long Island, New York: 1905.

We have but one complaint to make of *Federal Statutes Annotated*, and that is that the volumes do not appear as rapidly as we would like. When we take up one of the volumes which has already appeared and see how completely the *Federal Statutes* and case law governing each subject is treated, it is indeed tantalizing when we come to the investigation of a subject that belongs to the rear end of the alphabet. We are so much pleased with what has appeared in this valuable set of books that we are longing for its completion. Perhaps the most important subject contained in volume six is Public Lands, to which is devoted more than 300 pages. Among the other important subjects dealt with are Post Office Department; Prisons and Prisoners; Private Land Claims, Court of; Public Contract, Public Debt, Public Documents, Public Moneys, Public Officers, Railroads, Rivers, and Canals.

THE MASTER-WORD. A Story of the South of To-day. By L. H. Hammond. The Macmillan Co., New York: 1905. \$1.50 net.

This is a story of the unfaithful husband who begets out of wedlock a negro child, and the consequent suffering of himself and his wife, who, out of love for her husband, dead of grief, raises the negro child.

If there is any excuse for such a book, we have not been able to find it. Revolting and disgusting in its nature, it neither instructs nor amuses; and the more one reads, the more he wonders how a woman could have written such a book, much less have dedicated it to her husband.

C. B. G.